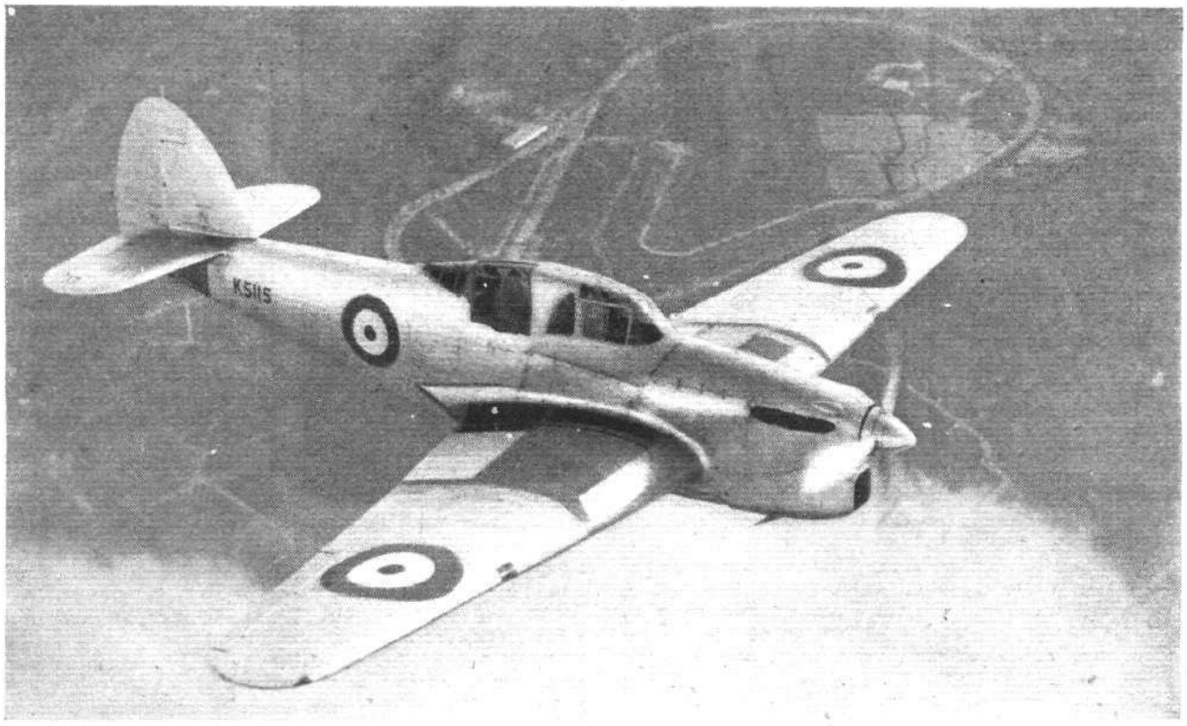
THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

SERVICE NOTES AND NEWS — AIR MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS



P.4/34 PROTOTYPE : Hawker's answer to an Air Ministry request for a high-speed light bomber. The engine is a Rolls-Royce Merlin which, as will be noted, has the new type of combined glycol radiator, oil-cooler and air intake. New streamlined exhaust collectors are also incorporated. The cockpit enclosure is one of the neatest of its kind yet seen. Brooklands Track will be recognised below. (*Flight* photograph.)

NEW SQUADRONS FORMING

No. 240 (Flying Boat) Squadron formed at Calshot on March 30, 1937, and was placed on the Coastal Command in No. 16 (Reconnaissance) Group.

The formation of No. 76 (Bomber) Squadron at Driffield, which was to have taken place on March 15, has been deferred.

MOVES OF SQUADRONS

No. 44 (Bomber) Squadron has moved from Wyton to Andover.

Nos. 51 (Bomber) and 58 (Bomber) Squadrons were moved from Driffield to Boscombe Down.

No. 80 (Fighter) Squadron has moved from Kenley to Henlow.

No. 226 (Bomber) Squadron has moved from Upper Heyford to Usworth.

No. 43 SQUADRON DINNER

It is proposed to hold a reunion dinner for all past and present officers of No. 43 Squadron, to celebrate the 21st anniversary of its formation. The dinner will be held on Friday, April 16, at the Savoy Hotel, London, at 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. Tickets are 12s. 6d., wines excluded. All officers wishing to attend are asked to communicate with P/O. J. W. C. Simpson, R.A.F., Tangmere, Sussex.

NAMES OF AIRCRAFT AND ENGINES

The name of the Bristol bomber transport aeroplane is Bombay I.

The name of the new Rolls Royce 12-cylinder "vee" ethylene-glycol cooled aero-engine about to be introduced into the service for installation in the Battle aeroplane is the Merlin I.

The name of the Rolls Royce 12-cylinder "vee" ethylene-glycol cooled aero-engine about to be introduced into the Service for installation in the Spitfire and Hurricane aeroplanes is the Merlin II. This engine is similar in general construction and performance to the Merlin I, but embodies a modified form of cylinder block.

NEW AIRCRAFT-CARRIER

The new aircraft-carrier *Ark Royal* will be launched at the works of Cammell, Laird and Co., Limited, Birkenhead, on Tuesday, April 13.

FOREIGN OFFICER WITH THE R.A.F.

Engineer Lt K. Okuda, of the Japanese Naval Air Service, has been attached to No. 2 Flying Training School in order to study the organisation and work carried out by the unit.

TRANSFER OF OFFICERS TO THE RESERVE

The undermentioned short service and non-permanent officers should note that they become due for transfer to the reserve, or (where indicated) for relinquishment of commission, in August and September next:—

General Duties Branch

Flt. Lts. *Horace Roy Allen, Henry Lawrence Matthews Glover, *Cyril Nelson Carpenter, *Peter Bathurst, *Alan Allnutt Saw, *John Henry Abel Chapman, *William Leigh Houlbrook, *Donald Andrew Gibson.

Medical Branch

Flt. Lt. Herbert Fenwick Harvey, M.B., B.S.

Dental Branch

Flt. Lts. Harold Keggin, L.D.S., and Victor Harry Weeks, L.D.S

Chaplains Branch

†The Revd. Charles Percy Nott Rowband, M.A.

†To relinquish commission, not liable for reserve service.

The officers marked * have been selected provisionally for permanent commissions.